第十夜：理解不能

原作：あずみ圭／漫画：木野コトラ

WHY DO THEY LOOK PREPARED FOR BATTLE?
WELL ... I'M HERE ...
NO!
AFTER ALL, THEY'RE ALL THE WAY OUT HERE IN THE WASTE-LAND!
MAYBE THEY'RE JUST ALWAYS THIS PREPARED HERE!
EVERYONE HERE IS REALLY GOOD LOOKING ...
RATHER THAN JUST DISLIKE, IS THE PERSON I RESEMBLE DANGER-OUS?
... IS IT ALL JUST BECAUSE OF MY FACE?
HUH?
POLITELY.
ANYWAYS, I BETTER CLEAR THIS UP FAST.

I'M NOT SURE WHAT HE SAID, BUT IT WAS PROBABLY SOMETHING LIKE "WHO ARE YOU AND WHY ARE YOU HERE?"
HE'S STARING PRETTY INTENSELY AT ME...
UM,
I'M MISUMI MAKOTO,
I JUST WANTED TO ENTER THE TOWN...
WHAT?
SOME-THING SEEMS
W-HOLD ON! I'M-
HUH?

WHY?!
WHAT DID SHE SAY...
WAIT, THINK BACK...
DO THEY NOT UNDER-STAND ME?!
ボッ
AH!
"BUT YOU BETTER NOT SULLY HUMANS ... WITH YOUR DIS-GUSTING SEED!"
...WHAT DEMONS, MONSTERS, AND OTHER NON-HUMAN RACES ARE SAYING...'

THE YOUNG MASTER WAS ATTACKED BY THE HUMANS AT THE TOWN
REPORT #1 ELDER DWARVES
AAAAAAH!
SO THIS IS WHAT
THAT DAMNED BUG MEANT!
AS BEREN SAYS, IT'S QUITE INTERESTING TO SEE WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR HIM.
OH, THANKS FOR THAT.
BEING TREATED SO POORLY BY THE HUMANS IS DEPRESSING TO HIM.
THAT SAID,
SHOWING THE INEXPERIENCE YOU'D EXPECT AT THIS AGE, THOUGH IT ALSO SHOWS GROWTH.
HE'S ALSO BROAD-MINDED ENOUGH TO ALLOW US TO LIVE HERE.
BUT GOT BACK UNHARMED BECAUSE OF HIS GREAT PHYSICAL ABILITIES
AND HIS ABSURD MAGICAL ABILITIES ...
THEY ATTACKED HIM? WELL... IT WAS TO BE EXPECTED ...
REPORT #2 MISTO LIZARDMEN
THE SMITHS ARE EAGER TO SHOW THEIR SKILLS.
WITH THE APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT AND EXPERIENCE,
HE CAN BECOME AS STALWART AND GREAT AS MADAM TOMOE AND MADAM MIO.

AND THIS IS DESPITE HIM POSSESSING THE POWER TO CONTROL MADAM SHI-TOMOE. HE IS TRULY A MYSTERIOUS MAN.
WE THOUGHT HE WAS HEADED TO THE HUMAN TOWN IN ORDER TO TAKE IT OVER.
CONSIDERING HOW HE WAS ABLE TO EVALUATE OUR SKILLS WITHOUT EVEN SEEING US IN BATTLE,
IT'S EMA, I'M COMING IN.
I'VE EXPLAINED THE SITUATION TO EVERYONE.
FLASHBACK TO ALKEY
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
WE HIGHLAND ORCS LEARN OTHER LANGUAGES IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHERS.
YOU'RE ABLE TO SPEAK TO THE OTHER RACES?
...THAT'S AMAZING, EMA.
THOUGH I CAN ONLY COMMUNICATE WITH THE ALKEY THROUGH WRITING.

THE HUMANS' LANGUAGE? YOU MEAN THE COMMON LANGUAGE?
...
IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN UNDERSTAND THE HUMANS' LANGUAGE THOUGH.
THOUGH I'M NOT ON THE LEVEL OF YOUNG MASTER, MADAM TOMOE, OR MADAM MIO ...
SO YOU ALL KNOW THIS COMMON LANGUAGE?
WAIT...
THIS WORLD IS DOMINATED BY HUMANS, SO THE OTHER RACES CALL IT THAT SINCE THEY'RE ALL FORCED TO LEARN IT.
COMMON LANGUAGE?
HAAH...
I DON'T SEE WHY THEY HAVE TO ATTACK ME JUST FOR NOT SPEAKING THE LANGUAGE THOUGH...
LEAVING ASIDE EMA AND TOMOE, HOW DOES MIO KNOW IT?
IS SHE A GENIUS AS LONG AS SHE ISN'T STARVING?!
YES, I KNOW IT
NATURALLY I DO.
INDEED, I DO.

YOUNG MASTER, YOU BELIEVE THEY ATTACKED YOU BECAUSE OF THAT?
WASN'T THAT IT?
HM...
NO, IT WOULD BE MORE TO DO WITH YOUR APPEARANCE...
"DISGUSTING..."
MY APPEARANCE...
AM I REALLY
THAT
UGLY?
SERIOUSLY?
ぎゃ
U-UGLY?
ぶぎゃっ
ブキッ
ゴゴゴ
UGH... THAT HURT...
YOU WERE LAUGHING TOO MUCH.
INDEED, YOUNG MASTER LOOKS DELECTABLE.
MIO, QUIT TREATING ME LIKE FOOD.

WHILE YOU CERTAINLY DON'T MEASURE UP TO HUMAN BEAUTY STANDARDS,
THAT ISN'T A REASON FOR ATTACKING SOMEONE.
THE REASON WAS YOUR MANA.
MY MANA?
?
...ARE YOU ACTUALLY NOT AWARE OF IT?
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE LEAKING IT OUT UNCONSCIOUSLY
HUH?
LEAKING?
IT'S KIND OF LIKE...
YES. YOU RELEASE SO MUCH THAT EVEN THOSE WHO NORMALLY DON'T PERCEIVE MANA END UP SEEING THINGS BECAUSE OF IT.
HAVE YOU BEEN ATTACKED BY ANY MONSTERS WHILE YOU WANDERED THE WASTELAND?
HUH? I THOUGHT YOU WERE SCARING THEM ALL OFF!
I'VE ONLY BEEN THERE A COUPLE OF TIMES.
WAIT, HOLD ON...
だら
SO I'VE BEEN LEAKING ENOUGH MANA THAT EVEN MONSTERS RUN AWAY?
WHEN DID THIS START?
だら

THAT LONG AGO?!
SINCE THE DAY WE MET ?!
IT WAS AROUND THE TIME I TAUGHT YOU MAGIC.
IT'S LIKE THE COVER WAS REMOVED AND EVERY DAY THE AMOUNT FLOWING OUT INCREASED.
WELL... AROUND THE TIME WE MET...
SO THEN WHAT DID THE HUMANS SEE ME AS?!
I-I'M SORRY.
I DIDN'T THINK THAT YOU WERE UNAWARE OF IT...
YOU COULD'VE TOLD ME THAT I WAS JUST LETTING IT ALL OUT!
HMM...
WHAT WOULD BE SIMPLER...
A SIMPLER EXPLANATION PLEASE.
ABSORBED
PEOPLE DON'T NORMALLY ATTACK THAT.
LIKE A SPRING THAT A GREAT RIVER ORIGINATES FROM...

HAHAHAHAHAHA!
ANYONE WOULD BE HORRIFIED IF THAT SUDDENLY APPEARED AND STARTED SAYING STRANGE THINGS WHILE SMILING.
IMAGINE IF A BUNCH OF DEMON LORDS JUST APPEARED ALL OF A SUDDEN.
REALLY ?!
TELL ME MORE!
UM...
IT'S POSSIBLE TO SUPPRESS YOUR MANA.
I'M GONNA BE TREATED LIKE THE DEMON LORD!
WHAT THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT THAT?!
WELL, IT'S ONLY NATURAL THEY'D ATTACK THEN
HA HA HA
FIRST YOU NEED TO FEEL YOUR MANA.
THEN JUST IMAGINE YOURSELF CLOSING THE LID...
ALRIGHT..
...WELL?
YOU'RE VERY QUICK TO LEARN!

HE WAS THE WEAKEST OF THE BUNCH.
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING CHANGED!
INDEED, ONE OF THE DEMON LORDS HAS DISAP-PEARED!
REALLY? SO I PULLED IT OFF?
TOMOE, MIO, HELP ME OUT!
FIRST I'LL NEED TO LEARN THE COMMON LANGUAGE!
THIS IS NOTHING
WHY NOT JUST GIVE UP ON GOING INTO THE HUMAN TOWN?
THE ELDEST MISUMI SON WON'T BE BROKEN BY THIS!
I'LL GET PAST THIS.
O-OKAY
ALSO, ASK THE DWARVES TO MAKE SOMETHING THAT'LL SUPPRESS MY MANA.
EMA I NEED SOME NEW CLOTHES
AND I NEED A MASK THAT'LL CONCEAL MY FACE!
THAT DAMN BUG! I WON'T HAVE IT HER WAY!

I ONCE BELIEVE THAT SORT OF STUFF
I'LL DEFINITELY GET PAST THIS
1 MONTH LATER
STARTING TO SEE RESULTS
1 WEEK AGO
YOUNG MASTER, I'VE BROUGHT AN EXPERIMENTAL RING.
I'VE USED A BLACK JADE IN IT,
SO THE EFFECT SHOULD BE STRONGER.
I'VE ALSO MADE IT ABSORB MANA SO QUICKLY THAT IT CAN KILL PEOPLE
YOU COULD VERY WELL REGARD IT AS A CURSED ITEM NOW
HM.?
IT BROKE ?!
I'LL LOOK INTO ITEMS THAT CAN KILL PEOPLE FOR THE NEXT ONE!
HIS OBJECTIVE SEEMS TO HAVE CHANGED
CRAFTSMAN'S SPIRIT
PLEASE DON'T KILL ME

LEARNING THE COMMON LANGUAGE
MY ABILITY TO READ AND WRITE SHOULD BE FINE
IT HELPS THAT THE GRAMMAR IS SIMILAR TO JAPANESE
NOW FOR LISTENING COMPREHENSION
GO IT!
LIH..
...DEFINITELY KILL... JOB I WANT TO SEE.. HUMANS?
IS THAT A PERIOD DRAMA?!
OW!
MANAGED TO PASS
THE LAST HURDLE: PRONUNCIATION
THAT'S NOT RIGHT, IT'S [R], NOT [L].
BUT THAT'S WHAT I SAID.
WHAT..

I'M TRYING TO GET IT RIGHT!
WHAT AM I DOING WRONG?!
.. YOU HAVE A NICE VOICE, BUT..
WHAT WILL WE DO?
UM...
HOW ABOUT NOW?
HAAH . LOOKS LIKE I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET THE MEANING ACROSS.
HM?
I'LL DO MY BEST AS WELL..
PLEASE DON'T JUST GIVE UP
I CAN WRITE WITH MAGIC
I CALL IT DRAUPNIR!
YOUNG MASTER, I'VE COMPLETED THE RING THAT CAN SUPPRESS YOUR MANA!
OOH!
MY!
COULDN'T I USE THIS INSTEAD ?!

OH IT'S ABSORBING IT...
THE MATERIALS I USED START OFF WHITE BUT WILL CHANGE COLOR AS THE RING ABSORB MORE MANA, EVENTUALLY ENDING UP RED
OH HO
NOT ONLY CAN IT ABSORB MANA IT'LL THEN COMPRESS IT
AND UNTIL IT ABSORBS A CERTAIN AMOUNT IT WON'T COME OFF!
ALRIGHT! I'VE DEALT WITH ALL THE PROBLEMS!
NOW I CAN GO TO THE TOWN!
AT LAST!
OF COURSE!
IT SEEMS TO BE FINE
IT ISN'T BREAKING!
OH! JUST IN TIME!
I'VE PASSED ON THE MESSAGE.
AH, RIGHT MADAM TOMOE, THE ORC GIRL SAID THAT THE ITEM YOU REQUESTED IS DONE
I WOULD LOVE TO ACCOMPANY YOU.
OF COURSE!
I COULD USE YOUR HELP
THOUGH I'M NOT ENTIRELY CONFIDENT SO CAN YOU TWO COME WITH ME?

WELL, THIS'LL BE ENOUGH FOR NOW!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO GOING INTO THE HUMAN TOWN!
IT'S TURNING OUT TO BE RATHER HARD TO MAKE SO IT'S FAR FROM FINISHED
WHAT ABOUT THAT THING I REQUESTED FROM YOU, DWARVES?
OH.
MIO, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO EAT MASTER-PIECES.
I CAN ALREADY TASTE THE SWEET SPECIAL PRODUCTS AND MASTER-PIECES I'LL GET TO EAT THERE
SHE'S KINDA SUSPICIOUS WHENEVER SHE'S IN THAT GREAT OF A MOOD.
MMM..
THE CARGO, EQUIPMENT AND EVERYTHING ELSE IS PREPARED.
HISTORIC RUINS AREN'T FOOD AND NEITHER AM I!
THEN I'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH YOURSELF AS THE MAIN DISH AND SOME HISTORIC RUINS FOR DESSERT!
THIS IS PRETTY WORRYING.

LET'S HEAD OFF TO THE HUMAN TOWN NOW!
WE STAND OUT TOO MUCH!
MY OUTFIT IS A BIT ODD, BUT WHAT'S WITH YOURS?!
I'M A SAMURAI YOUNG MASTER! I'M GLAD I ASKED THE ORCS TO MAKE THIS!
THE DWARVES HAVEN'T FINISHED THE KATANA, SO I'M MAKING DO WITH A SIMILAR LOOKING CURVED BLADE FOR NOW
I'LL CUT DOWN ANY FOE THAT DRAWS NEAR!
YOU ASKED THEM FOR A KATANA?!
IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
PROBLEM?! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! DON'T UNDERESTIMATE SWORDSMITHS!
YOU'RE JUST BEING UNREASONABLE!
BUT THERE WAS THAT INFORMATION IN YOUR MEMORIES
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT KNOWLEDGE ALONE IS ENOUGH.
I'LL GO TALK TO THE DWARVES LATER

LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
REALLY? IT'D SAY THIS ONE LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
YOURS ISN'T REALLY WEIRD.
I DIDN'T REALLY MIND MY PREVIOUS KIMONO.
TOMOE SAID SHE ALSO HAD THIS MADE.
I'LL GO WITH THIS!
...OKAY.
BY THE WAY,
?
AREN'T THE BICORNS DRAWING THE WAGON
RARE CREATURES? WON'T THIS CAUSE TROUBLE?
HM? WHAT?
...YOUNG MASTER...
WE CAN CONCEAL OUR HORNS
AND APPEAR LIKE NORMAL HORSES.
OOH, I SEE.

... JUST WHAT OTHER NON-HUMAN BEINGS CAN I SPEAK TO?
I'D LIKE SOME GRASS.
LATER.
HUH?!
SPEAKING TO A HORSE
MAKES YOU LOOK... WEIRD.
IS THAT FRUIT?
HEY!
ガヤ
ガヤ
OH, SORRY, I WAS JUST SURPRISED SINCE PEOPLE ONLY COME HERE TO LOOK FOR RESOURCES OR TRAIN, SO THIS SORT OF CARGO IS RARE.
THAT IT IS, IS THERE A PROB-LEM?

ほ
SO HE WAS JUST CURIOUS,
AND IT'S NOT BECAUSE HE RECOGNIZED ME FROM BACK THEN.
ALRIGHT.
LET'S CHECK WHAT THEY HAVE HERE AND HOW IT'S ALL PRICED.
ALSO, LET'S GO TO THE ADVENTURERS' GUILD OR WHATEVER IT'S CALLED.
VERY WELL.
SO WE NEED TO CHECK THE PRICES AT EVERY STREET STALL? THAT SOUNDS TIRESOME...
I'M PRETENDING TO BE A RICH MERCHANT'S SON.
SO I OBVIOUSLY NEED TO DO THAT.
た
... BIG BIG, YOU IDIOT...
は
YOU KNEW IT WOULD TURN OUT LIKE THIS ONE DAY...
は
め

THERE'S NOWHERE FOR A KID TO RUN AWAY TO OUT HERE.
……っ!!
NO NEED TO GLARE AT ME LIKE THAT.
RELAX, YOU'RE A CLEVER KID, JUST PUT IN THE EFFORT AND IT'LL TURN OUT FINE.
DON'T YOU WANT TO SAVE YOUR SISTER?
WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR SISTER IS UP TO YOU.
SO DO YOU WANNA HEAR MY OFFER?

ネクストページへ!! (→ LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT CHAPTER!)